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wherein said name service registers information received from clients and provides said information to clients that request the information; and causing a node that requires information about participants in said distributed operation to retrieve said participant data from said name service.

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(Amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions for determining participants of a distributed operation in a distributed system, the one or more sequences of one or more instructions including instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

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registering in a name service participant data that identifies a plurality of participants that are participating in said distributed operation;

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wherein said distributed operation is a unit of work involving said plurality of participants;

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wherein said name service registers information received from clients and provides said information to clients that request the information; and

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causing a node that requires information about participants in said distributed operation to retrieve said participant data from said name service.